has declined in size, in health, in strength, and

in length of life! Instead of living nine hun-

made to drink, and to bathe in, and not steep tea and coffee in, or to dilute wine and randy

with; and I bathe in water like a duck, and

drink water, which is alive as the fruits are, and

not your ten, and your coffee, and your wine, and

You may break your own neck !" exclaimed

"As my Zoe! Now why, Gertrude, do you

disapprove of Zoe?—why do you hate Zoe?"
"I don't hate Zoe; neither do I hate humble

"You despise her for her birth!"

know, as you do not know, that she is s

A mulatto !" echoed Brutus, in dismay

"For God's sake! how do you know? Do

would accomplish it ?

"As your Zoe!"

"Yes, a mulatto."

Look at the dead white skip-"

Brutus, very pale, and very much troubled.
"It is so, I tell you!" said Gertrude. "A

this evening, and wrap the little one up in a cloak and take her in my sleigh to Miss Armstrong's wedding. Ha, ha, ha! Little does Mrs. Armstrong

guess that in Zoe Dove she will have a mulatto

"Little does Mrs. Armstrong suspect that her daughter's second bridesmaid is a mulatto—a

But, reader, we are on our way. This is the wedding day of Louise and Louis, and, tempestu-ous as it is, we must visit other houses before the

The family at the Isle of Rays was up at the

bridal morn, rapped at his young master's door at

"How is the weather, Apollo ?-it was clouding

up last night before I went to bed; how is it this morning?" inquired Louis Stuart-Gordon, jump-

ing out of bed; and, opening the door, Apollo en

tered, set down the wax taper and hot water, and

" Bress de Lor, Massa, de wedder do seem to be

At the Crags, George and Hannah had arisen

at an early hour. Anna had left her humble cot in a small room within that of Susan Somerville

and, passing to the bed-side of the latter, had whis

ered softly— "It is time to rise, Miss Susan, if you are going

to Mont Crystal to-day; but the weather is dread-ful; a furious wind, with a driving sleet of snow and hail, and the roads impassable; the very landmarks lost in the drifted and still drifting

"Yes, I will go," thought Susan, as she perform ed her simple toilet. "The fierceness of this

Louis may suspect the extent of my credulity and folly, and his kind heart will be pained. I will

She went, but who could compute the trials of

that young heart, when, to save her friend from the mere possibility of uneasiness, she declined to avail herself of the chance of escape, and resolute-ly determined to be present at the marriage of

It was on the stroke of five o'clock in the morn

ing, when Kate Jumper entered her mistress's stately bed-chamber, and, drawing aside the cur-

Louis, the funeral of her own hopes.

tains said-

"Gertrude! what do you mean?"

Heavens! Gertrude!"

four o'clock

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BUELL & BLANCHARD, PRINTERS.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 18, 1850.

LITERARY NOTICES.

SINGULAR REVELATIONS, EXPLANATIONS, &c., of the

It is interesting to observe that all recorded intelligence from the spiritual world takes the coloring of the opinions of the time. Cases which occur to us by way of contrast, are those of Karl Martel the Frank, of a scornful Frisian chief who refused baptism, and of Hamlet's father-all of whom were seen or heard of in chains and fire. We esteem it fortunate for the departed spirits of the present day, that they live in an age when such horrors as these are obsolete. Their revelations do not shock one at all, and are at best mildly exciting to a rational curiosity. Their general views are those of Swedenborg and the Poughkeepsie Seer. The present account is more curious and circumstantial than any that we remember to have seen.

1. THE WATER CURE MANUAL. By Joel Shaw, M. D. 2. THE PHYSIOLOGY OF DIGESTION. By Andrew Combe

M. D. 10th edition 3. Sherwood's Manual for Magnetizing. Fowler & Wells

There has seemed to us something morbidly subjective or introspective (reminding one of Carlyle's "navel-saints,") in many of the popular treatises on physiology. The days are past when a vigorous man could live in blissful ign that he "had a system." To such as will follow this line of investigation, we strenuously recommend the Water Cure Manual. The element it deals in is less likely to do mischief than any other; and, in happy unconsciousness ourselves of any subjective medical experiments, we are apt to think, that between the jolly title-page of this "Manual," and its still more cheerful contents, backed by a fair share of second-hand knowledge of our own, we should betake ourselves to hydropathy for deliverance from almost any of the severer "natural shocks that flesh is heir to."

Dr. Combe's Treatise, tenth edition, needs no recommendation from us, save to state its price which is twenty-five cents.

That the relations subsisting between electrical forces and the human organization, will eventually affect the practice of the healing art, there seems little reason to doubt. The present is a veritable "Manual," or medical and clinical library in small, based on that idea. We are of course incompetent to pronounce on its merits, and only hope its apparent method and facility may not work mischief in the hands of bun-

1. THE PROPER'S AND HOWITT'S JOURNAL. London. 2. THE PRISONERS' PRIEND. Edited by Charles Spear

3. THE BIRLS ALLIANCE. By T. H. Stockton. No. 1

We are glad to record these signs of the intellectual, moral, and religious movement, going on among the People. It seems to be generally confessed that the Anglo-Saxon race wants taming; and here are three voices to that effect from three of its centres of thought. The first is full, busy, of its centres of thought. The first is full, busy, and various as ever, evidently a great vehicle of weather that would keep me in doors. I shall Ireland hair, or purplish black, like Italian hair, and with the communication among the English people, and | hunt!" said the giantess, shaking loose her catainteresting to such as have time and eyes for it, here, as perhaps the best record of the popular mind abroad.

Mr Spear's neat magazine continues faithful and zealous as ever in behalf of the cause he has espoused. The Bible Alliance is a sermon of real merit, by a man who, it would appear, considers the alliance of the pulpit, pen, and press, as better suited to his purpose than an ordinary church organization. His design is to print and circulate his discourses once a week, after delivery. The devout and humane spirit is worthy of all commendation; and we cannot but think there are many Christian congregations liberal enough to give Mr. Stockton a hearty wel-

EASY LESSONS IN LANDSCAPS. By E. N. Otis. Two parts, of sixteen lessons each.

Only a teacher of drawing can decide as to the respective merits of the many rival cheap systems of instruction before the public. A glance at this shows it to cover the space between broken lines and a pretty, pleasing, sketchy landscape. Anything must be of service, that serves to train a child's eye and hand—this perhaps as much as

DARK SCENES OF HISTORY. By G. P. James. Harpers

We have been a little doubtful whether to rank this with historical romances or genuine histories We are inclined to think the latter, with just enough of the romancer's art as to restore the dramatic liveliness of the earliest historians. Thus extremes meet. The eight passages that compose it, embracing the Templars, Albigenses, Wallenstein, and Herod the Great, are among the most attractive in history; and we anticipate it-for we do not pretend to have read it yet, except editorially-among the pleasantest of our sion for it. We are surprised to see how little the "fatal facility" of so facile a writer as James has detracted from the apparently industrious and faithful study of those historical details so essential in such a narrative. It is these (in the original tongues) which make Michelet's France, notes and all, the best history extant, to our notion; and it will be a very interesting process to set his by the side of the corresponding chapters of James. In this respect, the present volume compares most favorably with that slimmest specimen of historical romance, James's " Attila;" and approaches the magnificent chapters of Bulwer, the greatest master in that line, and the hardest working man. We speak of his later works, such especially as "Harold." For sale at Franck Taylor's, Washington.

THE STARS AND THE EARTH; or, Thoughts upon Space, Time, and Eternity. With a "Recommendatory Letter" from Thomas Hill. Second American Edition. Crosby & Nichols, Boston. 1850. Pp. 88.

We think the merit of this little pamphlet, which we have read carefully, is prodigally overrated in the notices prefixed. With the exception of its transcendental speculations, which are specimens of the most wilful verbal legerdemain we know of, it furnishes a very agreeable and suggestive hour's reading for one whose attention has not been very much given to the subject of

The National Era is Published Weekly, on Seventh Street, apposite Old Fellows' Hall.

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TERMS.

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The National Era is Published Weekly, on Seventh Street, and the service of religious signature of the chivalry to need across the continent, to run a new boundary for the Californians:

"Yes, I was wrong, Zoe, my little mentor. But, once grown familiar, must needs be pressed into the service of religious signature of the chivalry to need across the continent, to run a new boundary for the Californians:

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TERMS.

"Yes, I was wrong, Zoe, my little mentor. But, and that happlness here and felicity here.

The National Era is Published Weekly, on Seventh And a storm seldom lasts so once grown familiar, must needs be pressed into the chivalry to need across the continent, to run a new boundary for the Californians:

The National Era is Published Weekly, on Seventh And a storm seldom lasts so once grown familiar, must needs be pressed into the chivalry to need across the continent, to run a new boundary for the Californians:

The National Era is Published Weekly, on Seventh And a storm seldom lasts so once grown familiar, must needs be pressed into the chivalry to need across the chivalry to need across the continent of the chivalry to nification put upon it. Herein it ranks, in a rapid dissolution. I live upon fresh living roots nification put upon it. Herein it ranks, in a humble way, with such books as Vestiges of Creation, and the Ninth Bridgewater Treatise. For sale by Franck Taylor, Pennsylvania avenue, sale by Franck Taylor, Pennsylvania avenue, spite of the necessarily defective physical organi-Washington.

> HISTORY OF WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR. By Jacob Abbott. Harpers.
>
> The public, the final judge, has pronounced

The public, the final judge, has pronounced quite emphatically in favor of this felicitous plan the dead, and disguised cooked food, and the hor"Mother-mother!" exclaimed Louise, throw times in agreeable popular parratives. They succeed each other too fast to have any higher literary claim. With neat typography and engrav- epoch in the world's history, namely, the time ings, and blazoned title-page, they make a very Communion with Spirits in Western New York, Flan popular literature. For sale at Franck Taylor's, & Rockwell, Auburn. 1850. Pp. 81.

> [COPY-RIGHT SECURED.] THE MOTHER-IN-LAW.

A STORY OF THE ISLAND ESTATE.

BY MRS. EMMA D. E. SOUTHWORTH XIX.

THE BRIDAL. Hring flowers, fresh flowers, for the bride to wear! They are born to blush in her shining hair, She is leading the home of her childhood's mirth, She hath bid farewell to her father's hearth, Her place is now by another's side -Bring flowers for the brow of the fair young bride.

But there were no flowers in bloom on the wed ding day of our bride. The pale brow of Louise was indeed crowned with white roses, but they I wish to do it; that is the reason why I shall were lifeless, scentless, artificial—lifeless as the scentless, scentless, artificial—lifeless as the counter dred years old—never die till then, unless somechilled heart of the bride—false as the courtesy body sends a builet through my head or heart." of her mother-artificial as the forced smile with which Susan Somerville accepted her post of bridesmaid to the youngest, fairest, and wealthiest bride that had appeared in the county for the last not a fall on earth from which I have not the quarter of a century—or since the marriage of agility to recover myself. I could ride a lion! Margaret Stuart-Gordon, the sole heiress of the wish some enterprising man would bring one Island Estate, the almost fabulous splender of here and dare me to do it! You are not a lord of whose bridal is still a tradition of glory in the Creation, Brutus, nor do I know one man who is got her but for me." whose bridal is still a tradition of glory in the neighborhood, and which it was Mrs. Armstrong's ambition to supersede and eclipse with superior magnificence. Having but one daughter to "Should like to see you try—wonder how you marry off-one who was about to be wedded to the most wealthy man in the State-and having ample means, Mrs. Armstrong felt the propriety of sparing no expense; and she spared none. Everything that ingenuity could invent, taste devise, luxury desire, or money purchase, was procured—everything but "Fresh flowers for the bride to wear." There were no flowers alive tus, look at me! I am strong! I could subdue, bind, and lay at your feet, the strongest beef-fed man in the State!—any man but yourself, Brutus—by mere muscular force!—you will never 'subdue' a man by the force of your beauty, Gertrude, although you are beautiful, or 'bind' a man by the fetters of love, Gertrude, for you are not lovely." on the day of Louise Armstrong's marriage. The | are not lovely." roses had been dead for months-the rose-bushes. stripped of their leaves, stuck up, stiff and stark, as skeletons from the ground. Even the lilies and the tulips were long ago in their graves.

And what a day it was! that 22d of February,

"The Devil is doing all he can to dramatize the four elements " cursed and swore Brutus Lion | latto! who at four o'clock in the morning had jumped out of bed, with a bound that shook the houseyes, and the rocks on which the house was foundyes, and the rocks on which the house was found-ed, too—and had dashed open the window blinds "Do be quiet, Brutus, and let go a

What is the matter ?" shouled his sister from the next room. "Matter! matter!" thundered Brutus; "no

hunting again to-day, Ger! What will we do with ourselves, you and I ?"

"Start a stag! I don't mind the weather! Ha "Start a stag! I don't mind the weather! Ha! ha! you are growing effeminate, Brutus!" and Gertrude, with a shout of laughter, broke into the room half dressed, while Brutus was drawing on his pantaloons. "I should like to see the weather that would keep me in doors. I shall ract of rolling yellow hair.

"Hunt what, on such a devil of a day! Satar would not hunt a soul to-day !"

"I shall, nevertheless. Let the weather do its worst. Lord! Brutus, I defy the elements! Let them rage! I glory in defying them! I glory in the sublime strength that enables me to defy them! See here Brutus!"

And going to the window, she threw it up, and baring her neck and bosom to the sharp and driving sleet, stood there, while her large, fierce light-blue Saxon eyes danced with a jubliant ex-

"Oh, shut it down! come away!" impatiently exclaimed Brutus.

Gertrude laughed, and, folding her blue cloth pelisse over her bosom, still full of sleet, ex-

don't you! Pooh! as soon expect the wild rein deer of the Arctic regions to catch a cold! No! It is only your domestic animals—brute and hu-man—that take cold from exposure to the elements! Oh! Brutus, how you and I have divided the inheritance of our fathers. You, with the strongly-marked North American Indian features and complexion, have inherited the habits of an English fox-hunting squire. I, with the form, features, and complexion of the Anglo-Saxons and the Danes, have all the great hardihood of untamed Indian nature! Nothing affects me but confinement. Oh! Brutus, I never was sick! I never shall be sick! I defy all the influences of earth to make me sick! I could sleep all night in the open air in such weather as this, and never freeze nor get sick! Oh! Brutus, I can scarcely believe that I can die!-that this firm, white flesh of mine shall ever perish! Yet I know that some time after I have passed my hundredth year that this body will begin to wear out, and dry historical reading, when we presently have occa- away, and fall off from me, and then I suppose I shall ride a winged steed and hunt through the storm!—I shall like it, methinks. Certainly, I shall not feel it! Yes, I will go. if I do not, regions of air. I wonder if there is any hunting in the other world, Brutus? I swear to you, Brutus, that heaven would not be heaven to me with- go out it! The 'happy hunting grounds' of our

Indian fathers! That is my idea of heaven! And in truth it must be confessed that the Ger-Falcon's prospect for any other seemed very

Brutus again. "Don't let the room be filling with sleet and snow while you talk! God help you! I mean the man that gets you for a wife !only it is to be hoped that no man will be donkey enough to try!"

"Ha, ha, ha! I am pretty independent of your lordships!" laughed the cold and savage beauty very independent!"

"And very detestable for being so independent What should make you so independent?" "That is a jibe! but I will answer you.

should make me independent-or healthful, cheerful, and free, which is the same thing-I live by the laws of nature"

" Of savage nature !" "Of nature! Clothes were made to cover, to fetter people, and I wear mine lightly and exsily. Houses were made to shelter, not to suffo blast of the storm against the windows, Louise started from her couch, and, nervous and super-stitious as she was shook with terror at such an cate people, and I stay in ours only to eat and which it treats. As to the precision which some think it gives to our conception of such ultimate ideas as space and time, it will prove by a little attention to be thinner than the substance of a and disease people. Therefore, I live upon apawakening on her bridal morn! She slipped from her bed, and went and stood by her mother's side. With something like tenderness for the child that had just passed the last night she ever would pass in her mother's chamber, Mrs. Armstrong put her arm around her daughter's waist, and, divining her thoughts, said—

"It may clear away before evening, Louise; nay, it must clear away before noon; it has been shade. In ingenuity of conception and accuracy ples, nuts, turnips, and dried fruits—all those of statement we think it very inferior to Mr. fresh, sweet products of the earth, that, having Hill's own little book on Geometry and Paith, in them the elements of life and health, will keep The general train of thought is highly interest-ing, as showing how, from the constitution of the that, having the principle of decay within them-

mured Louise.
"The sun of fortune shines upon your marriage, zation inherited from meat-eating ancestors. And believe me, that the reason why the antediluvians lived so long was, that they lived upon the living vegetable productions of the earth—not upon

of Mr. Abbott's, of depicting eminent men and rid animal food. And believe me, that the Bibing herself, for the first time, sobbing, into her lical account of the original sin, and the heathen mother's arms. "Mother-mother-I will stay with you, if you wish it! Do with me as you fable of Prometheus' theft, referred to the same please! for am I not your own child? Do i not owe you life? Mother, mother, you are my creawhen the curiosity or the luxury of man tried ings, and blazoned title-page, they make a very pleasant addition to our current unexceptionable animal food, and fire, the fierce element, was capme with your love, as you once did in my infancy, tured and debased to culinary purposes, just to mother, and I will never, never, leave you

"And Louis, then ?" inquired the lady, in cold disguise the cannibal meal of meat, and then to change, cook, and kill the living fruits that were would not have stopped the marriage now for the tones, but with secret satisfaction, though she to have been the healthful and life-giving food of

men. And what have been the results? The "Louis oh, yes, poor Louis?" murmured Lou-human race has become luxurious, sensual, debased, and, even amidst the advance of civilization,

The sun did not shine out that day. At noon, the tempest subsided, and there seemed some dred years, men do not live ninety. Water was prospect of a clear afternoon. It was in the lull of the storm that Susan Somerville, attended by Anna, arrived in a sleigh, driven by George. Mrs. Armstrong received her with much polite-ness, and conducted her at once into the apartment of the bride. Mrs. Armstrong augured well from this arrival, for the success of her fete.

your brandy, which, with all their spirit, have no life or life-giving power. And that is is the reason why I have glorious health, strength, and spirits that is the reason why I can defy the storm, when "If Miss Somerville could pass the frightful road leading from the Crags, others can come," she thought. And soon, indeed, was seen another sleigh, containing little Zoe, carefully wrapped in blankets, and driven by Gertrude Lion. Coming up with a sudden jerk, Gertrude flung the reins upon the horse's neck, springing out knee-deep in came out to meet them.

"There, Mrs. Armstrong, I have brought you your second bridesmaid. You are not not have

"Oh, by no means; I had a particular wish that you should not miss your second bridesmaid!" "If we had been so unfortunate as to have miss ed the assistance of this young lady, another

could have been found among the guests."
"But," said Gertrude, fixing her blazing light "By STRENGTH, Brutus. God bless you, Bru-tus, look at me! I am STRONG! I could subdue, eyes upon the face of the lady, I had a particular wish that Zoe should attend her _____."

She paused—paused in astonishment. The haughty woman standing before her had changed as if suddenly struck with palsy. Her form was braced back against the wall and shuddering; her stony brow blanched and corrugated; her cold, sleet eyes riveted on the radiant face of Gertrude. "Well?" she exclaimed hastily; "go on; why do you ston?"

do you stop?"
"Well, I had a particular wish that Zoe should
"Well, I had a particular wish that Zoe should attend her——friend," said Gertrude, in a calm voice, with a careless look.

bees, but I do not particularly affect either; and I will not have a little coffee-brewing, cake-baking fool in the house." "But, Mrs. Armstrong, you are not well; you have been agitated," said she, with an affectation "I have been sgitated and over-fatigued." re-"I do not despise her for her birth, although I

plied the lady; "and really, Miss Lion, your manners are somwhat boisterous and startling, in a quiet house; you are so emphatic on trifles that—but pardon me, I keep you in the draught."
Then touching a bell, which was immediately answared by Kate Jumper, she said—
"Kate, show Miss Zoe Dove into the dressing—"Yes! where is Susan, love?" whi

room of your young lady, and then attend Miss Lion to the spartment prepared for her." And with a stately bow, Mrs. Armstrong swept on from the hail.

An hour or two later, other sleighs with guests began to arrive. The bridal toilet of Louise "Then I am easy. I really thought that you had a warrant for what you said."
"What warrant did I want more than my own Armstrong was commencing in the gorgeous dressing room prepared for her use. Although her two bridesmaids were in attendance, it was eyes? Zoe is of mixed African blood, I tell you. the artistic taste of Britannia O'Riley that arranged her dress. The bride sat before a large cheval mirror. She wore a robe of Mechlin lace, with a deep, rich border of embroidered rosebuds entwined with orange flowers, and worn over a white satin under-dress. Her pale, blond hair was braided over her ears, to suit the gentle madonna style of her countenance. Near her, on the back of a chair, was thrown a large and splendid Mechlin veil, of a similar pattern to that of the dress. On the toilet-table were various gloves, "Pooh! Nonsense! The devil! It is not true. You know nothing about it!" exclaiamed fans, essences, extracts, &c., and a case of diamonds, the bridal offering of General Stuart-Gordon, and a casket of pearls, the gift of her tell you that that circumstance does not trouble me a great deal, and that I shall go by for Zoe

with her hand the bands of her fair hair, until they shone again. Zoe lifted the casket of diamonds, and taking from it a bandeau, held it to-wards Miss Armstrong. Louise reached her

"No, no, my love, said Britannia, returning the jewels, "no gems for you; not one, Louise; they are too cold and glittering, and too hard and sharp to the touch. They suit me, Louise, not you: me, Louise, who am paloving and unloved; who, upon occasions, can be hard, cold, brilliant, and sharp—aye, and regal—like them; me, who flash out anger with the sparks of my rubies, and scorn with the gleam of my emeralds. But you, Louise, loving and loved—fair, soft, and gentle you must present no hard surfaces, no sharp points; no—flowers for you, Louise."

Zoe, attentive, alert, opened a band-box, and

first dawn-or, rather, at the earliest hour, for day could scarcely be said to dawn on that 22d of February. Apollo Belvidere, fit herald of the ook out a white wreath.
"No, no, it will not do," smiled Brighty, "fresh looming flowers we want. I will go and gather a wreath from the conservatory. But what are you doing there, Zoe?"

"I am scenting her handkerchief." "Oh, throw the phial in the fire. I detest those ma from her rosebuds and orange-blos

fresh living breath of the flowers will be best."
And Brighty, leaving the bride, went down stairs to select the wreath and bouquet.
On opening the glass doors leading from the saloon into the conservatory, Brighty started violently, and repressed an exchanation of dismay and horror at the sight of blasted desolation that

met her eyes. That fine conservatory of the most beautiful and fragrant flowers of our own clime and of the rarest tropical exotics; that splendid conservatory, that was the wonder and the envy of the whole county; that cherished conservatory that for years and years had received the most careful attention; had, in the bastle and hurry attendant upon the wedding, been forgetten an neglected; the fire in the furnace had been suffered to go out, and the night had fallen intensely cold; and now, upon the bridal morning the flow-ers were found dead; all withered by the blight

ing cold!
"What an ominous day!" exclaimed Brighty as she turned from that scene of blasted life, and thoughtfully and slowly returned to the bride.

"I do not like her toilet at all," said Brighty,
"her beautiful robe and veil are both perfect, but "her beautiful robe and veil are both perfect, but her brow crowned with artificial roses, and her

extract. No. I do not like it. Now you are quite ready," said Zoe; "and so beautiful and sweet, Louise! Now, Susan, we will put on our white muslins, for Louis wil

stately bed-chamber, and, drawing aside the curtains, said—
"Oh, madam, what a day!"
"Is it raining, then, Kate," inquired the lady, who, through the closed blinds, and closely curtained windows, and heavily draped alcove in which stood her bed, could not hear the tempest.
"It has been storming, madam; it has been storming all night; sleet and snow driven by a high wind; the ground is covered; you cannot see the tops of the fences, and the tempest is still raging fiercely; the roads, I am sure, must be impassable," said the mulatto, (who, from constant association with the family, spoke better English than most of her race,) and she laid the velvet slippers of her mistress ready for her to rise.

Mrs. Armstrong, rising, drew on her wadded dressing-gown, and, going to the window, and drawing aside the curtains, and throwing open the shutters, looked out with dismay.

Roused from her light slumbers by the sudden blast of the storm against the windows, Louise be here presently."

Susan Somerville, who had taken no part in this toilet, because her assistance was unnecessary, now arose, and, laying off her dark riding-habit, was preparing to change her dress, when, seeing Louise looking very pensive, she went up to her admitting lay very pensive, she went up to her and said, in a low voice, not to be heard by any of

"You are very serious, Louise; can I do any-"Oh, yes, Susan, I want to see my dear mother once more, here, before Louis comes."
"I will go and bring her," said Susan, leaving

the room.

Soon Miss Somerville returned, and, stooping down, whispered—
"Your mother is particularly engaged, and can

not come, Louise."

The bride burst into tears! You must break your heart because 'mother' can-not leave the reception of her guests, to make a scene with you!" exclaimed Brighty, with well-

your leisure, Miss Armstrong," coldly announced Mrs. Armstrong, as she swung open the chamber flattering.

door, and stood among them.
"Let them enter," said the bride, in a low voice, repelled and chilled by the coldness of her

Britannia, lifting the elegant well from the

Owing to the frightful tempestuousness of the weather, the vast saloon was very sparsely sprinkled with company.

"What a beautiful couple!" "What a well"What a beautiful couple!" "So interest-

"What a beautiful couple! "What a well-matched pair!" "So youthful!" "So interest-ing!" "How handsome is Louis!" "How pretty is Louise!" "What an elegant bridegroom!" "Whata lovely bride!" were the whispered words world.

"Louis job, yes, poor Louis!" murmared Louise, in a voice of distress.

"You are ridiculous, Miss Armstrong," said her mother, coldly turning away.

"I have a lovely bride!" were the whispered words of admiration that greeted their entree.

As the bridal group took its signion in the middle of the floor, the company arose and gathered around. The service commenced—it went on—amid the howling of the stern that it went on—

responses-it was over. The white hands of Susan Somerville reverently raised the gorgeous veil from the head of the bride, and carried it away and no one noticed how pale and ill was Miss Somerville, while friends and neighbors crowded around to congratulate "Mrs. Stuart-Gordon." "What a grand name for such a little body whispered Zoe, laughingly, to Britannia. "Yes: and what a fierce name Lion would h

for such a gentle little love as you, Zoe!" Zoe crimsoned, and slunk away behind the am-ple folds of Mrs. Armstrong's purple velvet gown. General Stuart-Gordon advanced at this moment to offer his congratulations to his son and daughter-in-law, and met the bright face of Miss O'Riley, while the smile and glance of mirth still lingered there. With a deep bow to Brighty, he addressed himself to the fair bride.

with their attendants.

It was now that Brutus Lion and his sister Gertrude—I beg their pardon, Mr. and Miss Lion of The Lair—advanced to pay their compliments. Brutus, in his new suit of Lincoln-green with gill bottons, his elf took, out, brushed, and tumed, and Gertrude, looking like the Queen of the Amazons, with her mazarine blue satin and her rolling yellow hair—or yellow mane, as Bru-tus, the brute! called it—with her rolling yellow hair gathered into a huge knot, and pierced and held by a long jewelled arrow.
"Mr. and Mrs. Stuart-Gordon, I salute your

highnesses! You sit there as calmly as though something astounding had not just happened to you! I especially refer to Mrs. Stuart-Gordon. This little creature," and here the golden-haired Amazon took the delicate and white gloved hand of Louise in her own, "this little one, was this morning Louise'—a little girl to be snubbed by her waiting-maid, scolded by her governess, and lectured by mamma; this evening she is "Mrs. Stuart-Gordon!" Stupendous! Louise, can you bear it? I declare to you, Louise, that there is not a young lady present who could not support your honors with a more imposing dignity than you do! Myself for instance! I am tall and strong, and and could sustain the burden of a great name! And Brighty there! I assert that Brighty seemed born to be the mistress of the Isle of Rays! Why, even Susan Somerville would look Mrs. Stnart-Gordon better than you do, little one! though Susan Somerville will make a Virginia matron of the first class, and of the most approved stamp! Where is Susan? Yes! where is she? I have not seen her since she rais-

Zoe sprang to obey, but Britannia by a sudden thought caught her arm, arresting her flight, and

saying—
"Stop—Miss Somerville carried off your veil,
"Stop—Miss Somerville carried off your veil, and will soon return without doubt. In the mean while where was Susan Somer-

ville? All through the day, all through the toilet of Louise, she had sustained herself by an almost superhuman exertion of will. She had thought herself prepared by steady and firm anticipation for the meeting with Louis; but at the first sight of his face, the first sound of his voice, her courage had forsaken her. All through the ceremony she stood, her brain reeling, her heart sinking, her limbs failing under her; yet she stood seemingly very quiet, so calm and white was the habitual style of her face. I said that the marriage of Louis was thef uneral of her happiness. Each word of the upon her ears like the reiterated blows by which a limb might be slowly and painfully cut off—fell upon her heart like clods upon a coffin lid. At the conclusion of the ceremony, she felt her senses going—the scene all mingled into chaos and swam before her sight—a confused and painful flashing of lights, and glancing of eyes, and glittering of trinkets—a confused clashing of sounds, where girlish laughter, mingled with deep-toned, heartfelt-words of sympathy, and with meaning of the storm without—pressed in upon her brain. To save herself, and with a last effort of self-control, she raised the veil from the brow of the bride, and bore it away. Faltering through the long passages, and up the great staircase, she found he com. A little fire was burning there, and a din taper was standing on the mantel-piece. Anna was seated by the fire. Unheeding this, she approached the side of the bed, sank down upon her knees, dropped the veil upon the bed, her arms upon the veil, and her head upon her arms, and unconsciously gave way to a succession of low, deep moans, like one in acute bodily pain might do—reproaching herself bitterly the while for the sin and shame of her present sufferings. A rap was heard at the door, but Susan did not heed it. Anna went to the door. It was Mrs. Arm

Is Miss Somerville in her chamber ?" "Yes, madam; and as soon as she has arranged her dress she will return to the saloon," Anna has "Let Miss Somerville know that we await her presence to commence the quadrilles," said the

lady, and turned and left the passage. Miss Somerville," murmured Anna, softly near the ear of Susan.

The poor girl started, blushed, and, rising in on, she crossed the room, and seated her self in the chair by the fire, unconsciously and

without replying.
"Miss Susan, Mrs. Armstrong has sent for you They expect you in the saloon." TO BE CONTINUED.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE NATIONAL ERA. WHITEHALL P. O., MADISON CO., KY.,

February 2, 1850. To the Editor of the National Era:

DEAR SIE: The writer of the letter which I send you is a full-blooded African, about thirty-five years old. I send you the letter, (which you will return to me,) instead of a copy, that you may publish it as it is. I have not been an uninterested, though a silent

observer of the contest now, whether this Govern-ment shall extend really "the area of Freedom," or make "property" of such persons as my correspondent.
In this crisis of our national life, this letter is more than argument—it is a truth—an undebata-ble face—which pleads, with more power than the eloquence of words, backed by the prestige of ge-

nius, in favor of the liberty of all men, of every clime and color. Believe me, sincerely your most obediept servant, C. M. CLAY. P. S .- It might be proper to add, that this freedman could barely read and write whilst a slave. You will observe that the handwriting is far better than my own.

NEW RICHMOND, CLERMONT Co., OHIO

My FRIEND: It is about four years since I last een you, though in that time I have heard from public report of you often. You will believe me when I say to you that I have watched over you in all the trials which you have undergone, and my heart sympathized with you when you were surrounded by men who sought your life and villscene with you!" exclaimed Brighty, with wellfeigned petulance.

"Oh, it is not that, Brighty; you know it is not
that!"

"Well, then, because she will not because she
is selfish, cold, and hard, and —"
Here the gentle hand of Zoe fell softly on the
arm of Brighty, and the gentle eyes of Zoe were
raised reprovingly and imploringly to her face.

"Spirit, that you may be led in the way of all
surrounded by men who sought your life and villfied your character. Although my skin is black, I nevertheless feel for my friends; and I shall always bear in my heart feelings of gratitude to you for the disinterested friendship shown by you will have at once the protection of the law and the advantage of a well-ordered Government. This, too, without any trouble or expense to the
United States.

As for Georgia, her convention might have the privilege of adjourning, so soon as assembled, unless, indeed, it should resolve to raise a

I enclose you a handbill containing a descrip-tion of the plough I am manufacturing. They can be made any size, and to plough any depth that may be required, from 8 to 20 inches deep. It would afford me sincere pleasure to furnish my chair, throwing it over the head and form of old master with what he might want of them, or Louise, gracefully arranged it, and soon the little at least one of them, in order that you might test party were marshalled down stairs, and into the their quality, as I am well assured they will give saloon. east, such as I sell here for ploughing vineyards. It would be first rate to tear up the roots and riars of the Hocaday field. The health of myself and family is good. We

The health of myself and family is good. We have had no increase in our family.

Remember me to your good lady and family, and to the colored people; and it would afford me much satisfaction if you permit my sister Hannah to visit me during the next summer. The ploughs you want, please write me.

With my prayers for your prosperity and happiness, permit me to sign myself Your affectionate friend,

Cassius M. Clay, Esq.

NEW JERSEY.

A few days after the opening of the Legislature of New Jersey, Mr. Haxey, a member of the Assembly from Passaic, introduced the following

Resolved, (the Senate concurring.) That our enators from this State in Congress be and are creby instructed, and our Representatives reaughter-in-law, and met the bright face of Miss PRiley, while the smile and glance of mirth still in singered there. With a deep bow to Brighty, he ddressed himself to the fair bride.

The newly-married pair now took their seats with their attendants. properly qualified for admission, that may by their nic law prohibit the institution of slavery in said States.

Resolved, (the Senate concurring.) That Conboth right and proper that the Government of this great Republic should free itself from the sanction of the slave traffic, which has too long disgraced the otherwise fair reputation of the Government of the United States.

Resolved, (the Senate concurring.) That neither the threats of disunion and withdrawal, by members of Congress from the slaveholding States, nor the recommendations of the Governor of South Carolina for a re-organization of the militia of the said State, in contemplation of disunion, nor the solemn acts of different Legislatures of the slaveholding States, in case of the application of the Wilmot Proviso to the Territories of the United States, should for one moment deter the members of Congress from this State from performing their duties on this grave question.

Resolved, (the Senate concurring,) That the Governor of this State be requested to forward a

copy of the foregoing resolutions to each of the Senators and members of Congress from this These resolutions will probably pass, unless the Whigs feel themselves embarrassed by the rec-

Constitutionalist, of Woodbury, closes an excellent article in support of the resolutions, as follows: "In republishing these resolutions and penning these remarks, we are conscious of giving expression to an active sentiment—one which we fear to crush, or at least to keep in subjection. In the State of New Jersey, among the urasses, there is not a single sympathetic pulsation with the slaveholder, as such—and, unless the press reflects properly and faithfully this feature of public opinion, unless it is not only permitted but used

time may come when demagogues will be

The Legislature of this State has passed a bill authorizing the Governor to call a Convention of he people of the State, on the happening of the

1st. The enactment by Congress of a law pro-hibling slavery in any Territory of the United States.

2d. The enactment of a law to abolish slavery

following events:

in the District of Columbia. 3d. A law to prohibit the slave trade between the States where slavery now exists.
4th. Should the Governor of this State receive

satisfactory evidence that any slave or slaves have scaped from this State to a non-slaveholding State, and that such slave or slaves is or are re State, and that such slave or slaves is or are re-fused to be given up to the proper owner by the authorities of the State in which the fugitive or fugitives may be found.

And, lastly, should Congress admit into the United States as a State of this Confederacy the

extensive and sparsely peopled territory of Cali-fornia and New Mexico.

The first four contingencies were generally concurred in; but the last, that relating to Cal ifornia, was strongly resisted, and was carried by a party vote. The Whigs strenuously opposed it, as violating a fundamental State rights principle—one that has been maintained for years by that party, and which Mr. Calhoun, in 1847, most emphatically proclaimed in the Senate. The po-sition taken by the Georgia Democrats concedes to Congress the right to impose conditions upon a State applying for admission—a doctrine repelled by the whole South in the Missouri controversy It involves the farther folly of opposing the ad-mission of California, even if its Constitution au thorized slavery.

It is such violent and extreme men as these who

by assuming untenable positions, expose the un-deniable rights of the South to attack; and subthan that the South cannot be united on this Georgia platform. It is too gross and palpable : departure from State rights to command a general concurrence. It may suit the "bitter-enders," who are determined, whatever face the future may wear, to oppose the Administration of General Taylor. But it will please no one else. We may regret as much as we may the fact, that California has prohibited slavery; but that was the inevitable result of Mr. Polk's Abolition Regiment, and the character of the emigration thither and we know no alternative, but admitting her as free, or rejecting her altogether. If it be competent to Congress to limit her boundary to 36° 30′, that should be done; but, beyond that, we see nothing that can be done.—Richmond (Va.) Whig.

We hope the Governor of Georgia may have ccasion to call a Convention of the People of that State. The Representatives and Senators from the State of California have at last arrived Their application for admission and recognition has come before Congress, and, craven as has been the spirit betrayed by many Northern members so far, they will rally in support of the new State. As to cutting down her boundaries, the man from the free States who shall propose or assent to, such a project should make up his mind to emigrate to the South instanter. Texas, with its enormous boundaries and its

groundless claims, was brought into the Union by Southern men, Northern men assenting. The idea of " suitable boundaries" then was scouted. It was slaveholding territory, and the South could see nothing absurd in admitting the whole of it as one State into the Union, although more unwieldy than California is now. The conduct of the slaveholders in relation to Texas will render opposition to the admission of California

with her present limits, utterly inexcusable. Independently of anti-slavery considerations, it s best that the whole of the Territory should be suffered to remain, in its present state, under the State Government already constituted ; as in this way, the colored population in all that vast

VIRGINIA.

The following resolutions have been adopted in the House of Delegates, Virginia, with much unanimity, except the fifth, on which the vote stood-yeas 97, nays 20.

Whereas the recent action of the General Assembly upon the Wilmot Proviso and kindred subjects, and in relation to fugitive slaves, has met with no other response from the non-slaveholding States than violent denunciation and a systematic perseverance in the wrongs of which complained; and whereas it is apparent that the inevitable result of such a course of action on the part of a portion of the States must be to excite bitterness, jealousy, and distrust, among the rest, to kindle the angriest passions, to extinguish that spirit of concession and destroy that mutual forbearance and fraternal affection which founded and have sustained our Confederacy, and finally to dissolve the Union itself: and whereas we ar anxious, if nossible to aport the exile which threaten us, and believe that the raise effectual means of doing this are to be found in the cordist union of the whole South for the maintenance of the Constitution, and the preservation of the Union, if it can be preserved, and for their own preservation if it cannot:

Be it therefore resolved by the General Assembly of Virginia, That upon the questions thus perseveringly and recklessly forced upon the country Virginia has taken her position, and that position will be maintained. Her loyalty to the Union is no matter of empty profession. It is stamped on every page of her history. No State has done as much to form the Union; none is prepared to do more to perpetuate it in the spirit in which it was formed, and in which alone it can be preserved. But loyal as she is, and always has been, it were a fatal error to suppose that Virginia will ever consent that that Union, to which she has looked as a source of happiness and honor, shall be con verted into an instrument of degradation and op-

pression.

2 Resolved, That, in the event of the passage
of the Wilmot Proviso, or of any law abolishing
slavery in the District of Columbia, [or in any
manner interfering with the rights of slavehold-Resolved, (the Senate concurring.) That Congress possesses the legislative power to abolish trade between the States I Visited will be necessary in the District of Columbia, and that it is pared to unite with her sister slaveholding States in convention or otherwise, in the adoption of any measures that may be necessary to provide for their mutual defence, or to secure their common

3. Resolved, That, in the opinion of this General Assembly, a Southern convention, in which the States as States are represented, should consist of delegates selected by the people of the several States in convention assembled, who should carry with them all the authority derived from such an appointment, and be prepared to act for those whom they represent.
4. Resolved, therefore, That, upon the happening

of either of the contingencies contemplated in the second resolution, the Governor be authorized and requested (instead of convening the Legislature) to issue his proclamation for the election of dele gates to a State convention, to take into consider ation the mode and measure of redress, with power to appoint delegates to a Southern convention, and to adopt such measures as the crisis may demand. The said delegates to be chosen by each city, county, or election district, according to its representation in the House of Delegates, and to receive the same pay and mileage as members of the General Assembly.

5. Resolved, That regarding the convention proommendations of the President's message. The

posed to be held at Nashville on the first Monday in June next as intended to enable the people of their part with their constitutional obligat States, now in imminent peril by reason of the and their representatives in Congress, in their ceaseless agitation (and that, too, in the most unfriendly spirit) of questions involving the peace the institutions, and the very existence of the o give voice to the thoughts of our people, the Southern States, and approving the objects of the said convention as above set forth, the General Assembly doth recommend to the good people of this Commonwealth to send delegates in each city, county, and election district, in the State, and appoint delegates to a convention to be held in each congressional district in the month of May next, and that the district conventions, so each of the two political parties of the country, who shall be delegates to the said Nashville Con

wention.

6. Revolved, That the Governor of this Commonwealth be requested to send a copy of these resolutions to each of the slaveholding States of this Union, and also to our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

While the House was acting upon the resolutions, Mr. Watson presented the resolutions of his county, Albemarle, protesting against the Nashville Convention, and all proposals of reprisals, non-intercourse, &c., as premature.

The second resolution, as it originally stood,

mentioned the "abolition of the slave-trade in

the District of Columbia" as one of the causes for resistance "at all hazards, and to the last extremity." But this was stricken out, and the words in brackets were inserted. After the adoption of the second resolution, the following proceedings took place:

Mr. Snowden read a despatch from a member of Congress in Washington, stating that Mr. Root's proposition to apply the Wilmot Proviso to the Territories had been rejected by twentyeight majority. It was regarded as settling the defeat of the Proviso. | Much applause in the We hope the constituents of the eighteen Dem-

ocrats and fourteen Whigs from the North, who

voted to lay Root's resolution on the table, and also of the score of the dodgers on that resolution, will note those proceedings. Will they echo the applause of the Virginia Legislature? The resolutions were sent to the Senate, where they were made the order of the day for Monday,

the 11th. It will be observed that the resolutions omit any reference to California, and that they carefully define the powers of the Nashville Convention, so as to render it totally incapable of any

act beyond mere consultation. Would to God that the non-slaveholding Representatives and Senators had the courage and magnanimity to put through Territorial bills. with the Wilmot Provise in them, and then quietly adjourn and go home. We should like to see what the conventions to be called by the Governors of the slaveholding States would do then The sooner we have a decision of the question whether Congress is to legislate in accordance with the deliberate convictions of a majority in each House, or in obedience to the dictation of a desperate minority, the better. Till this question be decided, there can be no peace in this country, except by the implicit submission of the majority

to the minority. Postscript.-The Senate has since passed the resolutions, with a single amendment; striking out "slaveholding" from the sixth.

The following joint resolutions have been iutroduced into the Legislature of Louisiana by Mr. Shannon of Point Coupee: Resolved, That the Government of the United

States is one of limited or delegated powers only Resolved, That Congress has no power over any subject, unless such as are expressly granted by being reserved to the States respectively, or to the

and the advantage of a well-ordered Government.

This, too, without any trouble or expense to the United States.

As for Georgia, her convention might have the privilege of adjourning, so soon as assembled, unless, indeed, it should resolve to raise a bled, unless, indeed, it should resolve to raise a